

# Rogue River Courier

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No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

## OFFICIALS OF COAST LINE ARE HERE TAKE FRENCH TRENCHES AT SOUCHEZ

President Robert Twohy and Party Arrive in the City From Portland and Inspect Progress of the Work

President Robert E. Twohy of the California & Oregon Coast Railroad company, arrived in the city today upon the delayed No. 13 from Portland. Accompanying Mr. Twohy are R. B. Miller, the vice-president of the company and in charge of traffic arrangements; George W. Boschke, chief engineer for the company; Emory Olmsted, of the Northwestern National Bank of Portland, and G. E. Moore, also of the Rose city.

The gentlemen left just after noon on the regular train over the new railroad for the Waters creek terminus, and will return at six o'clock, but will inspect the work of locating the line over Hays hill during the afternoon. The preliminary work upon the hill has been practically completed, and the campaign that will carry the line to the Illinois valley will soon be undertaken. It is also expected that the work upon the railroad bridge across the Rogue will be hastened, this being necessary to ease for the traffic that will follow the arrival of steel and machinery from the east.

Mr. Miller spoke most hopefully of the progress of affairs, and said that a number of things that were now in course of consideration would have a wonderful influence upon the future of the district. It is expected that the party will visit the Illinois valley before returning to Portland.

### SPOKANE MAN MEMBER OF FOREIGN LEGION

New York, Feb. 22.—Lieutenant Charles Sweeney, of Spokane, a member of the foreign legion, and the first American to receive the Cross of the Legion of Honor in 50 years, arrived here today on the French liner LaFayette. Sweeney has a bullet in his lung and is on a three-months' leave of absence.

He plans to leave for Spokane Thursday and he will spend some time with his father, who is president of the Federal Smelting and Refining company.

## TROJAN POWDER CO. WORKS BLOW UP

Oakland, Cal., Feb. 22.—For the second time in six months dry house No. 3 of the Trojan Powder company's works at San Lorenzo became ignited and exploded, causing the immediate death of the attending mechanic, Emil Bryant.

The flames were confined to the one building, which was totally demolished. Because of the isolation of the plant near the waters of the bay no further damage was done. The fire and the subsequent explosion was a duplication of the previous one, which cost the life of William O'Brien, who was the mechanic.

Deputy Marshal Chris Hopper made a cursory investigation into the accident and reported his belief that the explosion was caused by the unusual high temperature of the drying kilns.

Hopper said he could not estimate the amount of powder destroyed. Inasmuch as the explosion was felt distinctly in Oakland, it is believed there was considerable dry powder in the building. The value of the building was about \$10,000.

Berlin, Feb. 22.—The Germans captured 800 yards of French trenches and 326 prisoners east of Souchez, the war office announced today.

The fighting along the Aisne and Champagne fronts was described as growing more violent.

"Northwest of Tahure," said the statement, "French grenade attacks failed."

Paris, Feb. 22.—Seven German battalions carried more than a half mile of first line French trenches and also second line trenches at many points of the Bois-Giverny region, it was officially admitted today.

By counter-attacks, however, the French drove the invaders from practically all sections of the lines.

The Germans lost heavily.

The Germans charged after making gas and artillery attacks for several hours. The first line trenches were destroyed at many points by the "Buz Berthas," and afterward the Teutons used nearly 8,000 men for successive attacks along a front of less than a mile.

Answering the German moves, the French streamed shrapnel, machine gun fire and explosive shells upon the advancing men, and directed counter-attacks from the third line trenches.

Strong artillery fighting around Verdun was regarded as possibly the beginning of another German offensive in that vicinity. The official statement revealed that the Germans had penetrated the French first line trenches east of Brabant-Sur-Meuse, that two German attacks east of Seppois had been repelled and that a Zeppelin had raided Lauenville last night, doing slight damage.

## ARMY INCREASE IS PLANNED IN HOUSE

Washington, Feb. 22.—The United States will have available at the end of five years more than 1,000,000 trained soldiers if plans of house leaders materialize.

These plans, on which the military committee is now working to frame its bill, call for the following:

Increase of the regular army to 150,000 men.

Increase of the militia, under a plan of federalization, to 425,000.

Provision for a reserve of 75,000 regulars and 100,000 militiamen through annual retirement.

Whether President Wilson will accept the house plan for federalizing the militia is uncertain. As it now stands, this plan would provide for merely nominal state control, for drafting the militia in case of war, and would bar the militiamen from federal pay unless there were uniform federalized training.

### AMBASSADOR GERARD BREAKS COLLAR BONE

Berlin, Feb. 22.—American Ambassador Gerard today broke his collarbone in an accident.

The accident happened while the envoy was skiing near Munich. He was taken at once to Berlin for X-ray examination at a hospital.

Gerard's left leg was found to be injured also, though not seriously.

## AMERICA PAYS HOMAGE TO HER FIRST PRESIDENT



SEARCH in the plains where flashed the sword of Washington. What find you there? Tombs? No; you find a world. Washington has left behind him the United States as a trophy of his battlefields.—Chateaubriand.

## WARNED NOT TO SAIL ON FRENCH LINER ESPAGNE

New York, Feb. 22.—Shipping officials professed today to feel no uneasiness about warnings of peril for the French liner Espagne, received by American passengers booked to sail on her for Bordeaux Thursday. Indeed, they claimed not to have seen any of the warnings. An investigation is known to be under way, however, as to the source of a warning sent to Mrs. F. B. Hilton, one of those scheduled to sail. The Espagne officers said the ship will sail on scheduled time, but they refused to express an opinion as to whether the warning came from a responsible source.

Officials refused to believe that the warnings portend a repetition of the Lusitania case, though they recoiled that like warnings had been sent before that vessel left port last spring. The present warnings called attention to the fact that Austria and Germany are about to put into effect a policy of submarine attacks against armed enemy merchant ships.

The warning letter to Mrs. Hilton said:

"Madame: It is understood you intend to sail within a few days upon the Espagne for Bordeaux. You are doubtless aware of the intended submarine policy coming into effect any day which will be carried out vigorously and irrespective of the nationality of passengers. Therefore, assuming that you are aware of the unusual and unnecessary danger to which you are subjecting yourself, you are requested to accept this warning as a definite one, which you are requested not to question, but to accept for the safety of yourself and family."

### SPRING MILLINERY DESIGNS ANNOUNCED

Chicago, Feb. 22.—The Galt-Wilson hat of Georgette crepe, trimmed with orchids, like President Wilson's wife wears, is a new spring style, decreed by modish milliners. Others are the Zappellin hat, the George Washington, the submarine, and the folding hat.

## TURKISH TROOPS ARE ON THE RUN BEFORE SLAVS

London, Feb. 22.—As the Turks are retiring before the Russians along a 210-mile front, British reinforcements are being sent up the Tigris to Kut-el-Amara to meet the menace of a possible Turkish junction there with forces already on hand. If the weather permits, the new British troops will relieve General Townshend's garrison at Kut-el-Amara and then engage in a new offensive toward Bagdad.

The Turks are completely evacuating Armenia between Erzerum and Mush, while the Russians are approaching Bash Chifdik and Oghnat.

## T.R. TO KEEP OUT OF PRIMARY SQUABBLE

Washington, Feb. 22.—Colonel Roosevelt will not take part in any republican or progressive primary squabbles, nor permit his name to be used in any primary, said a congressman today who is in Roosevelt's political and personal confidence. The colonel has even refused the request of Governor Johnson of California for an expression on California primary matters.

Alexander Moore, of Pittsburg, today conferred with Progressive Leader Copley, and it is understood Moore intends to begin a pro-Roosevelt movement for an un instructed Pennsylvania delegation, unfriendly to Senator Penrose.

### FIVE PERSONS DIE IN NEW YORK FIRE

New York, Feb. 22.—Five persons were killed early today as the result of a fire that swept through a West 45th street theatrical boarding house. Four of the persons perished in their rooms, while the fifth, an unidentified man, jumped from a fourth-story window and struck a fence, almost cutting off his head. The fire aroused guests of nearby hotels and for a time caused a near-panic.

## SIX KILLED IN NEW HAVEN WRECK TAKE TITLE TO O. & C. LANDS

Two Passenger and One Freight Train Are Piled Up In Collision and Besides the Dead, 50 Are Injured

New York, Feb. 22.—In the first serious wreck on the New Haven railroad system in many months, three trains today piled up near Milford, Conn., killing six persons and injuring at least 50 other people.

Passenger train No. 79, bound for New York, had stopped near Milford because of defective airbrakes. A special passenger train following crashed into the rear, turning over the engine of the special and the last coach of the stalled train. A moment later a New York bound freight on the next track hurtled into the wreckage, piling up the freight and blocking all tracks.

The injured were picked up by a fourth train and taken 12 miles back to Bridgeport.

The impact hurled a coach over the freight train and toppled several cars into a 20-foot ditch. The company stated that the engine of the special passenger train jumped the track and crashed into the moving freight.

Recovery of 10 of the injured persons is doubtful.

## PORTLAND TONG MEMBERS IN WAR

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

Portland, Feb. 22.—A general clean-up of Chinatown probably will be ordered by District Attorney Evans today as a result of the tong battle yesterday, when four Hop Sing highlanders chased Wong Ching, an aged member of the Bow Leong tong, down the street and emptied two revolvers into his body.

With four bullet wounds, Wong was in a critical condition at the hospital today.

Julian Alabero, a Chinese-Filipino, is in the city jail, suspected as one of the shooters. It was Alabero who was identified in November, 1914, as the Hop Sing highlander who entered the restaurant of Jim Wong, a prominent Suey Sing, and stabbed him in the back as he sat eating a bowl of rice.

For some mysterious reason Alabero was released after his knife had stirred up the tong war of which the present troubles are a part.

Double patrols of police have been ordered to Chinatown by Chief Clark. Reports from LaGrande, The Dalles, Seattle and other cities, tell of suspicious arrivals and departures in Chinatown. The Bing Kong member who was badly cut and beaten at LaGrande last week is still in a serious condition.

The Hop Sings, most warlike and powerful of all the war tongs in the northwest, have been badly worsted in most of the clashes thus far. Their opponents, the Bing Kongs, Bow Leongs and Suey Sings, have kept to their homes, coming into the open only to strike viciously and fatally, then disappearing behind barred doors again.

Yesterday's blow was struck by the Hop Sings and calls for the shedding of more Hop Sing blood at the hands of the allies. Their victim, however, was hardly worth the chase. Poor old Wong Ching could not run fast enough to give the like Hop Sing gunmen a merry chase. But most likely he will die.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The Wilson bill, granting preference rights to applicants in the Oregon and California land grant cases, was termed "loaded" by Chairman Ferris of the house public lands committee.

Wilson's bill is one of several dealing with the land cases on which hearings are now in progress. Constantine Smythe of the department of justice told the committee that the plan would promote fraudulent locators and would give valuable Oregon timber tracts worth \$20,000,000 to men having no right to recognition.

Smythe also disapproved of the Hawley bill because that gives preference rights to persons whom the courts have declared hold no standing, and because it fails to pay taxes.

At the same time, he objected to the Raker bill because it does not settle the whole question at once, but he did favor the Chamberlain bill.

The chief contention in the committee promises to be whether the government should stop with resuming title to the lands, as the Raker resolution proposes, or to decide what shall be done with them. Raker contends that it is the first duty of congress to take over the title, leaving disposition of the holdings to future legislation.

Other pending matters, he holds, will not allow congress time in which to thresh out the details in the six months allowed by the courts for settling the situation.

The Oregon view, to be pressed by Congressman Sinnott, is that the subject should be disposed of in one bill, instead of allowing the legislation to drag on, inasmuch as in the meantime nearly \$2,000,000 in taxes due to Oregon counties would remain unpaid. Oregon demands immediate relief on the tax situation.

### JEAN CRONES BELIEVED TO BE IN MILWAUKEE

Milwaukee, Feb. 22.—Chicago police today notified the local authorities that Jean Crones, "poison soup plotter," is hiding in this city, according to their information. An immediate search in anarchist circles was instituted.

In connection with this search for Crones, the police are also investigating a \$5,000 fire which occurred at St. Paul's Episcopal church Sunday, as they think he or some of his anarchist cohorts might perhaps have some knowledge of it.

## GUERRERO UNDER SIEGE BY VILLA

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

El Paso, Feb. 22.—Guerrero, state of Chihuahua, is under siege by General Francisco Villa and 900 followers. So hard pressed is the city that the commander of the Carranza garrison has appealed for assistance, saying that his forces are outnumbered, but that he will try to hold out until reinforcements arrive.

Villa has executed 80 prisoners taken near Cuahuirachio in dispersing a Carranzista column under General Cavahos, sent to exterminate him.

Through this victory Villa replenished his store of ammunition.